

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 875

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to name the Tennessee Department of Labor  
and Workforce Development building in  
Nashville in honor of Governor Phil Bredesen.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should commemorate the legacy of an accomplished public servant who has led this state with the greatest probity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, as Tennessee's 48th governor, Phil Bredesen has evinced a strong commitment to accountability and open government; and

WHEREAS, during his first year in office, Governor Bredesen managed the state through a fiscal crisis without raising taxes or reducing funding for education; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bredesen has set clear priorities for Tennessee, beginning with the state's top priority - education; he has increased education funding by a record amount during his Administration, in addition to expanding the state's pilot Pre-K initiative statewide, creating the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation, and raising standards in K-12 education; and

WHEREAS, during the 2010 special session of the General Assembly, he provided inspired leadership in the passage of Race To The Top legislation to implement innovations for improving student performance and graduation rates, thereby ensuring a better educated and more skilled workforce for the future; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bredesen has also ushered in an era of great progress in economic development, including the location of a one-billion-dollar Volkswagen automotive plant in Chattanooga; a \$1.2 billion Hemlock Semiconductor solar panel component facility in Clarksville; and a one-billion-dollar silicon facility by Wacker Chemie AG in Bradley County; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bredesen has effectively managed TennCare by preserving full enrollment for children and pursuing innovative care and disease-management initiatives; he has also improved long-term options for Medicaid enrollees and has instituted Cover Tennessee, which now provides health insurance and pharmacy assistance to more than 75,000 previously uninsured Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, after founding the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund, Governor Bredesen celebrated the completion of a historic 127,000-acre conservation acquisition on the northern Cumberland Plateau in 2008; "Connecting the Cumberlands" creates a swath of protected forestland for preservation and public enjoyment that totals 200 square miles; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bredesen continues to focus on the fundamentals that move Tennessee forward: a continued emphasis on quality education at all levels, the availability of affordable, quality health care for all Tennesseans, job creation, and investments in clean energy technology; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, all divisions of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development moved from three buildings into the new central office building in Nashville's MetroCenter, and for the first time ever, the Department's programs and 850 employees are located under one roof to better serve the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a jewel among Governor Bredesen's many accomplishments, the new Department of Labor and Workforce Development building is arguably the most aesthetically pleasing and efficiently designed new building in state government; and

WHEREAS, throughout his two terms as Governor of the State of Tennessee, Phil Bredesen has demonstrated the utmost acumen, ability, and integrity, and he should be appropriately honored by this General Assembly on behalf of a grateful public; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the new Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development central office building located at 220 French Landing Drive in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County is hereby designated the "Governor Phil Bredesen Building" as a lasting

tribute to one of the most effective and most dedicated governors in the long and illustrious history of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development is directed to erect or affix suitable signs designating the new Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development central office building in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County as the "Governor Phil Bredesen Building".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development.